



HR1061

LRB098 21094 MST 58878 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate Reverend Monsignor John Pollard on the 40th anniversary of his ordination; and

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WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese on May 8, 1974; and

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WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard served as associate pastor of St. Albert the Great Parish from 1974-80 and of St. Julian Eymard Parish from 1980-85; in 1982, the President of DePaul University appointed him the executive director of the university's Center for Church/State Studies; 5 years later he was given the John Courtney Murray Award for distinguished contributions to the field of religion and government; and

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WHEREAS, In 1985, Rev. Msgr. Pollard was appointed to the staff of the Office for Catechesis in the Archdiocese of Chicago, and, 2 years later, he was appointed to be director of the office; in 1988, he was appointed to serve on the Bishops' Committee on Doctrinally Sound Catechetical Materials, and, in 1989, he served as co-chairman of the National Catholic Educational Association's Convention, Exposition, and Religious Education Congress; 5 years later, after the conclusion of his service as director of catechesis, he

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1 received the Archdiocese of Chicago Award for Extraordinary  
2 Leadership and Service; and

3 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard was appointed to the staff of  
4 the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington,  
5 D.C. in 1992, where he served as assistant coordinator for Pope  
6 John Paul II's visit to the United States in 1993, and, that  
7 same year, was director of catechesis for World Youth Day; in  
8 1994, he was appointed by Pope John Paul II to be a permanent  
9 member of the International Council on Catechesis, and, in  
10 1995, he was appointed to be the founding director of the  
11 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for the  
12 Catechism; that same year he again served as assistant  
13 coordinator for the Pope's visit to the U.S.; and

14 WHEREAS, After 7 years of service to the U.S. Conference of  
15 Catholic Bishops, Rev. Msgr. Pollard was appointed director of  
16 the newly-created Department of Education, and, in 1998, he  
17 also served as a consultant to the Bishops' Committee on the  
18 Catechism; in 2000, he was appointed to serve as a member of  
19 the Bishops' Committee on Education; later that same year, he  
20 was appointed director of the newly-created Department of  
21 Evangelization and Catechesis; in 2001, he returned to  
22 Washington, D.C. to work with the Episcopal Oversight Board on  
23 the development of the new National Directory for Catechesis,  
24 and, in 2003, he served as a consultant to the Committee on

1 Catechesis; and

2 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard has received several  
3 distinguished honors over the years; in 1996, he was cited for  
4 his leadership in adult catechesis by the National Advisory  
5 Committee for Adult Religious Education; in 1997, Francis  
6 Cardinal George conferred the Archdiocese of Chicago Medallion  
7 for Excellence in Catechesis on him; Today's Catholic Teacher  
8 named him one of the 25 most influential leaders in Catholic  
9 education over the past quarter century; he received the F.  
10 Sadlier Dinger Award for Leadership in Catechetics from William  
11 H. Sadlier, Inc. citing his leadership, and the Our Sunday  
12 Visitor Foundation awarded a \$500,000 grant to the Office for  
13 the Catechism during his tenure as its director; and

14 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard has been a catechist and  
15 teacher for pre-schoolers, children with disabilities, high  
16 school, college and graduate students, teachers, catechists,  
17 and principals and priests; he has taught at the University of  
18 Illinois, St. Xavier University, and DePaul University, and has  
19 been a adjunct professor of catechetics at Mundelein Seminary;  
20 in addition, he has served as religious education consultant  
21 for the National Catholic Educational Association and as  
22 theological consultant for several publishers of catechetical  
23 texts and materials; he has frequently delivered papers and  
24 presented workshops at the meetings and conventions of the

1 National Catholic Educational Association and the National  
2 Conference of Catechetical Leadership and has given  
3 presentations, directed seminars, and led workshops on the  
4 Catechism for bishops' staffs, diocesan  
5 educational/catechetical leaders, priests and parish  
6 leadership in over 100 dioceses in the United States; he has  
7 spoken to audiences at the Vatican, in Spain, Italy, Canada,  
8 the Republic of Ireland, Great Britain, Guam, and several  
9 island nations in the Caribbean; and

10 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard wrote "Exploring the Catholic  
11 Faith", an annotated edition of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin's  
12 "Growing in Wisdom, Age and Grace"; his numerous articles have  
13 appeared in books and journals such as the Catholic  
14 Encyclopedia, the Thomist, the Living Light, the Journal of  
15 Religion and Law, Chicago Studies, the Josephinum Journal of  
16 Theology, the DePaul Law Review, Momentum, Catechetical  
17 Sunday, Proceedings of the International Eucharistic Congress,  
18 and Proceedings of the Pontifical Council for the Laity; he  
19 wrote the general introductory essay for Liturgy Training  
20 Publications' The Catechetical Documents; his latest work,  
21 "Know, Live and Love the Catholic Faith" was published by Our  
22 Sunday Visitor Press in November of 2005; and

23 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard has served as a member of the  
24 U.S. Bishops' Committee on Education and as a consultant for 2

1 Bishops' Committees: the Committee on Catechesis and the  
2 Committee on the Catechism; he also served on the Boards of  
3 Directors of the National Catholic Catechists' Society, the  
4 National Conference of Christians and Jews, and De Paul  
5 University's Center for Church/State Studies; he has been the  
6 chaplain of the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago for over 20  
7 years; he has served on the Editorial Board of the Living  
8 Light, the Board of Directors of the National Conference of  
9 Catechetical Leadership, and the Advisory Committee of  
10 National Catholic Educational Association's National  
11 Conference of Diocesan Directors of Religious Education;  
12 Francis Cardinal George appointed him a member of the  
13 Archdiocesan School Board in 2009; and

14 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard was appointed pastor of St.  
15 Joseph Parish in Wilmette on March 15, 2003; 7 years later he  
16 was appointed to be pastor of Queen of All Saints Basilica;  
17 Pope Benedict XVI named him Chaplain of His Holiness with the  
18 title Reverend Monsignor in September of 2010; and

19 WHEREAS, Rev. Msgr. Pollard holds a master's degree in  
20 Supervision and Administration from Loyola University of  
21 Chicago and a master's degree in Divinity and a Licentiate in  
22 Sacred Theology from Mundelein Seminary; he is a doctoral  
23 candidate in the Department of Theology at the Catholic  
24 University of America in Washington, D.C.; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we congratulate Reverend Monsignor John Pollard on the 40th  
4 anniversary of his ordination; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to Rev. Msgr. Pollard as an expression of our esteem  
7 and respect.